PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:	Not yet assigned
Filing Date:	Herewith
Applicant:	Tsuyoshi Mekata et al.
Group Art Unit:	Not yet assigned
Examiner:	Not yet assigned
Title:	Infrared Imaging Device, Vehicle Having the Same Installed Therein, and Infrared Image Adjustment Device
Attorney Docket:	5077-000059/DVA

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications and other information requested to be considered by the Office (except unpublished U.S. patent applications) are listed on Form 1449 attached hereto.

II. COPIES

A.____ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. patent application publication and U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; (iii) for each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application which caused it to be listed including the claims directed to that portion; and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

B. _X__ Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on Form 1449 or on the copies of PTO-892, but which are not enclosed herewith, were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120:

C.____ Because the present application was/is being filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications which are listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i). Any foreign patent documents or non-patent literature listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed herewith.

D.____ This is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the United States. A copy of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. The documents listed on the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form-1449 for consideration by the Examiner and for listing on any patent resulting from this application. Since the International Search Report was from the US, EPO, or JPO search authorities, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above-identified application. (MPEP 1893.03(g))

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

A.____ Except as may be indicated below in (B), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).

B.____ A concise explanation of the relevance of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

1.____See the attached foreign patent office communication from a counterpart foreign application:
2.____English translations are provided:
3.____Other:

C. ____The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

IV. CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

A.____The Examiner is advised that the following co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject matter that may be related to the present application. By bringing this(these) application(s) to the Examiner's attention, Applicant(s) does(do) not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122.

Serial No.	Filing Date	Art Unit

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER

A._X__**37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**: (check only one box)

1. _X_ within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or certification is required.

2. ____ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fee or certification is required.

3. ____ before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below; or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of $180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

4. ____ before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No fee or certification is required.

B. ____**37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**: (check only one box)

before the mailing date of either any Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution.

1. ____No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of $180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

2. ____See the certification below. No fee is required.

C. ____**37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)**:

after the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, yet on or before payment of the issue fee.

1. ____See the certification below. A fee in the amount of $180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

VI. CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e): (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

A. ____ each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. §

1.97(e)(1)). See further statement under 37 C.F. R. 1.704(d) below in section VII, if applicable; or

B. ____ no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)).

C. ____Some of the items of information were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office. As to this information, the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

VII. STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.704(d)

The undersigned hereby states that:

___ each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this IDS.

VIII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check only one box)

A. ____ A check in the amount of $180.00 is enclosed for the above-identified fee.

B. ____Please charge Deposit Account No. 08-0750 in the amount of $180.00 for the above-indicated fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, contain matter which anticipates the invention, or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Oct 13, 2003

By: Greg Stobbs
Gregory A. Stobbs
Reg. No. 28,764

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GAS/kk

FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449) **PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE** **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION** (Use several sheets if necessary) Sheet 1 of 2	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
	5077-000059/DVA	
	APPLICANT	
	Tsuyoshi Mekata et al.	
	FILING DATE	GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
1.		4,866,275	09/12/1989	Jaeger et al.		
2.		5,118,943	06/02/1992	Le Bars et al.		
3.		5,276,319	01/04/1994	Hepfer et al.		
4.		6,274,869-B1	08/2001	Butler, Neal R.		
5.		5,994,701 -A	11/1999	Tsuchimoto et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Country	Class/ Subclass	Translation Yes	No
1.		05-302855	11/16/1993	Japan		Abstract	
2.		10-111172	04/28/1998	Japan		Abstract	
3.		10-142065	05/29/1998	Japan		Abstract	
4.		11-83635	03/26/1999	Japan			
5.		9-264794	10/07/1997	Japan			
6.		6-229820	08/19/1994	Japan			
7.		6-34449	02/08/1994	Japan			
8.		6-341904	12/13/1994	Japan			
9.		11-51773	02/26/1999	Japan			
10.		62-138153	08/31/1987	Japan			
11.		9-73596	03/18/1997	Japan			
12.		10-142065	05/29/1998	Japan			
13.		6-94539	04/05/1994	Japan			

Examiner:	Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449) **PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE** **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION** (Use several sheets if necessary) Sheet 2 of 2	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
	5077-000059/DVA	
	APPLICANT	
	Tsuyoshi Mekata et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Country	Class/ Subclass	Translation Yes	No
14.		10-274564	10/13/1998	Japan		Abstract	
15.		3-255795	11/14/1991	Japan		Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)		
Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	
1.		

Examiner:	Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.